

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claim 8 has been amended by incorporating therein the subject matter of claim 10. Accordingly, claims 9-10 have been cancelled. Method claims 1-7 and 13-14 have also been cancelled.

It is submitted that the amendment only rewrites dependent claims and cancel claims, so they do not raise any new issue. Accordingly, entry and consideration of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 8 and 11-12 are pending in the present application. Claim 8 is the only independent claim.

I. Indefiniteness rejection of claims 5 and 13

In the Office Action, claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite because of the phrases introduced by “preferably.” Claim 13 is also included in this rejection as dependent on claim 5.

Claim 5 has now been cancelled. Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection is moot.

II. Art rejections

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, and 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over EP 0985807A1 (“EP’807”) in view of U.S. 4,335,849 to Van Bashuysen (“Van Bashuysen”) and further in view of US 20020078681A1 to Carberry et al. (“Carberry”)..

Further, claims 2, 4, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over EP’807 in view of Van Bashuysen and Carberry, further in view of US2003/0136113A1 to Nakagawa et al. (“Nakagawa”).

Also, claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over EP'807 in view of Van Bashuysen and Carberry, further in view of US 2001/0013409A1 to Burk et al. ("Burk").

Claims 1-7 and 13-14 have been cancelled, and claim 8 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 10, which is not included in these rejections. Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejections should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the invention as presently claimed is patentable. It is believed that the claims are in allowable condition and a notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

In the event there is, in the Examiner's opinion, any outstanding issue and such issue may be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of the response period. Please charge the fee for such extension and any other fees which may be required to our Deposit Account No. 502759.

Supplemental Amendment
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Respectfully submitted,

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